

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of the claims replaces all prior versions of the claims presented in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A method for arresting the growth of or eradicating tumors in a mammal bearing one or more tumors comprising the steps of:

(a) comparing the daily plasma prolactin profile of said tumor bearing mammal to a normal daily prolactin profile for healthy mammals of the same species and sex;

(b) adjusting the daily plasma prolactin profile of said tumor bearing mammal by administering a prolactin enhancer at appropriate time intervals of day such that the peak and trough of the daily circadian prolactin profile of the tumor-bearing mammal occurs at or about the same time as the peak and trough of the daily circadian prolactin profile of a healthy mammal of the same species and sex;

(c) contacting the cells of said tumor with a benzophenoxazine-analog photosensitizer having phototoxicity against tumor cells; and

(d) exposing said contacted tumor cells to light, such that the growth of said tumor is retarded or said tumor is eradicated,

provided that said prolactin enhancer is not metoclopramide.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said tumor bearing mammal is a human.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2 wherein said prolactin enhancer is melatonin or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein said melatonin or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is administered in an amount within the range of about 0.5 to about 20 mg/person/day.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3 wherein said prolactin enhancer is prolactin.

7. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein said prolactin enhancer is administered at a time between about 19:00 and 1:00.

8. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein said prolactin enhancer is administered at a time between about 19:00 and 1:00.

9. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein said melatonin or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is administered at a time between about 19:00 and 1:00.

10. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein said photosensitizer is selected from the group consisting of porphyrin dyes, phthalocyanine dyes, cyanine dyes, benzophenoxazine analogs, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

11. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein said photosensitizer is selected from the group consisting of porphyrin dyes, phthalocyanine dyes, cyanine dyes, benzophenoxazine analogs, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

12. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein said photosensitizer is selected from the group consisting of porphyrin dyes, phthalocyanine dyes, cyanine dyes, benzophenoxazine analogs, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

13. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein said photosensitizer is selected from the group consisting of porphyrin dyes, phthalocyanine dyes, cyanine dyes, benzophenoxazine analogs, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

14. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein said photosensitizer is selected from the group consisting of porphyrin dyes, phthalocyanine dyes, cyanine dyes, benzophenoxazine analogs, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

15. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein said benzophenoxazine analog is a member selected from the group consisting of 5-ethylamino-9-diethylamino-- 2-iodobenzo[a]phenothiazinium chloride and 5-ethylamino-9-diethylamino-benzo[a]phenothiazinium chloride.

16. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein said benzophenoxazine analog is a member selected from the group consisting of 5-ethylamino-9-diethylamino-- 2-iodobenzo[a]phenothiazinium chloride and 5-ethylamino-9-diethylamino-benzo[a]phenothiazinium chloride.

17. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein said benzophenoxazine analog is a member selected from the group consisting of 5-ethylamino-9-diethylamino-- 2-iodobenzo[a]phenothiazinium chloride and 5-ethylamino-9-diethylamino-benzo[a]phenothiazinium chloride.

18. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein said benzophenoxazine analog is a member selected from the group consisting of 5-ethylamino-9-diethylamino-- 2-iodobenzo[a]phenothiazinium chloride and 5-ethylamino-9-diethylamino-benzo[a]phenothiazinium chloride.

19. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein said benzophenoxazine analog is a member selected from the group consisting of 5-ethylamino-9-diethylamino-- 2-iodobenzo[a]phenothiazinium chloride and 5-ethylamino-9-diethylamino-benzo[a]phenothiazinium chloride.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein administering the prolactin enhancer adjusts the daily prolactin peak of the tumor bearing mammal to conform or approach the daily prolactin peak for healthy members of the same species and sex of said mammal.

22. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein administering the prolactin enhancer adjusts the daily prolactin peak of the tumor bearing mammal to peak at night.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of adjusting the daily plasma prolactin profile of said tumor bearing mammal comprises administering said prolactin enhancer within the peak prolactin period of said healthy mammal of the same species and sex as said tumor bearing mammal.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said prolactin enhancer is administered between the hours of 01:00 and 04:00.

25. (New) A method for arresting the growth of or eradicating tumors in a mammal bearing one or more tumors comprising the steps of:

(a) comparing the daily plasma prolactin profile of said tumor bearing mammal to a normal daily prolactin profile for healthy mammals of the same species and sex;

(b) adjusting the daily plasma prolactin profile of said tumor bearing mammal by administering prolactin at appropriate time intervals of day such that the peak and trough of the daily circadian prolactin profile of the tumor-bearing mammal occurs at or about the same time as the peak and trough of the daily circadian prolactin profile of a healthy mammal of the same species and sex;

(c) contacting the cells of said tumor with a benzophenoxazine-analog photosensitizer having phototoxicity against tumor cells; and

(d) exposing said contacted tumor cells to light, such that the growth of said tumor is retarded or said tumor is eradicated.